



Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board

MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 2021

The Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board (ATCFPB) convened on Monday, June 7, 2021 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>

Board Members in Attendance:

Andrea Abel, Joy Casnovsky, Joi Chevalier, Emily De Maria, Kacey Hanson, Karen Magid, Sharon Mays (9:09 am), Ryan Rosshirt, Ellen Sweets (9:17 am)

Staff in Attendance:

Edwin Marty, Amanda Rohlich

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Karen Magid called the meeting to order at 9:04 am

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Frances Jordan - calling in to listen to meeting

Lira Ramirez - in support of College Food Insecurity Grant Program initiative

Jeffrey Clemmons - in support of College Food Insecurity Grant Program initiative

Paula McDermott - need to support food access on college campuses in our region; specific restrictions for SNAP eligibility for college students based on the assumption that students have parent support. Over 40% of college students experience food insecurity nationally and that rate is even higher among community college students

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH MEETING

Board Member Andrea Abel motioned to approve the meeting minutes from April 5, 2021, with Board Member Joi Chevalier seconding the motion. Passed on a 9-0 vote.

- a. Laura LaFuente, Austin Public Health, City of Austin – Update on EquidadATX Contract
 - i. Funding was based on food access budget rider. Intended to augment not replace food access program. Contracted with Equidad to bring affordable social services
 - ii. Contract has been executed. Start date was supposed to be April 1. Slight delay in service delivery. One to two month delay in getting started.
 - iii. Creedmoor High School and other schools in Del Valle. Looking for additional locations. Additional locations, services and hours will be based on community feedback and ensuring there is adequate space for access, visibility and community accessibility
 - iv. Convening partners to develop schedule.
 - v. Food access, financial services and general health and wellness. Start in January 2022
 - vi. Goal is to provide twice monthly events for 3 hours
 - vii. Pilot program; two-year program

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- viii. How will Equidad be working with other food service providers? They are supposed to be coordinating so there is coordination and not competition among the groups.
- b. Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager, City of Austin – State Legislative Updates and Council Resolution Updates (see back-up materials)
 - i. Recommendation of ad hoc WG to address this funding

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Board Infrastructure & Protocol
 - i. Review Board Members' meetings with City and County Officials
 - i. Joi Chevalier in communication with Travillion and Shea, D2 - CM Fuentes and Harper Madison and D8. Proposals regarding to City budget and ARPA funds
 - ii. Healthy Food Access WG – Fuentes and Tovo
 - iii. Kacey Hanson has been in contact with Commissioner Travillion
 - iv. Magid – Fuentes and Tovo offices; also been in communication with Mayor's staff related to vacancies.
- b. Board vacancies and appointments
 - i. Howard and Gomez have vacancies and two mayoral vacancies.
 - ii. Mayor putting names on June 17 meeting
 - iii. Process: ATCFPB doesn't make board recommendation on who to fill positions but individual members can make recommendations on their own behalf.
 - iv. County needs clarity on how they are making appointments
- c. Board elections for Chair and Vice-Chair
 - i. Sharon Mays to nominate herself for Chair position; seconded by Kacey Hanson
 - ii. Joi Chevalier to nominate Karen Magid for Chair; seconded by Ellen Sweets. Karen Magid does not accept nomination but is interested in Vice-Chair position.
 - iii. Motion to approve Sharon Mays as chair. Passed on a 8-0 vote
 - iv. Sharon Mays nominated Karen Magid for Vice Chair; seconded by Ellen Sweets.
 - v. Joy nominated herself for Vice Chair position; Kacey Hanson seconded.
 - vi. Karen Magid does not accept nomination.
 - vii. Motion to approve Joy Casnovsky as Vice Chair. Passed on a 8-0 vote.
- d. Review Prior Board Recommendations and Discuss City and County Budgets – discuss below
- e. Community Engagement
 - i. Healthy Food Access Working Group, when dealing with recommendations, will create a one-pager for advocacy. Community is responding to those one-pagers because they are more approachable. Recommendation for all WG to make one pagers for future communications as a tool to engage the community.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Working Group Briefings and Recommendations
 - i. Discuss Annual Report
 - i. All WG to pull together a brief summary of work over the past year; send to Sharon Mays
 - ii. Healthy Food Access to All Communities
 - i. Had May meeting and continued to work on recommendation that they put forth to the Board and Council and County Commissioners. Developed a one-pager and working on getting that out to working group and WG sharing with community. Working with CM Fuentes and CM Tovo's office and are

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coordinating how they are incorporating previous board recommendations into their recommendations on how to use American Rescue Plan funding.

- iii. Governance
 - i. Kara Prior was leading this effort but has stepped down from the board. Karen Magid may be able to help reengage this effort
- iv. Food and Climate
 - i. Karen Magid provided updates. Food and Climate WG has not met in over a year. Waiting for Austin Climate Equity Plan to be approved by Council. Update from Joint Sustainability Committee – Karen shared findings around Winter Storm Uri and the frustration that food was not mentioned in the initial recap.
- v. Build Opportunities for Food Entrepreneurs
 - i. Sharon Mays provided update. In the home stretch of Charitable Feeding Organization permitting updates. A new permitting process was approved by Council in May. Will schedule public meeting to share information about new process and help CFOs come into compliance.
- vi. Support Farms & Farmers
 - i. WG is dormant right now
- vii. COVID-19 Food System Response
 - i. WG is dormant right now; work has been progressing with Healthy Food Access WG
- b. Review of Board Member Assignments
 - i. Edwin Marty to get clarification from Intergovernmental Relations Office on how recent lobbying bill effects the city's ability to hire lobbyist to advocate on their behalf at the state.
 - ii. Staff to send Nourish Austin Proposal to all board members
 - iii. All Board Members to talk to County Commissioners about ARPA funding and regional planning
 - iv. All Board Members to contact Janine Clark with recommendations on who should be appointed to the board
 - v. Kacey Hanson to send Ellen Sweets invite to join Healthy Food Access WG meetings
 - vi. All Working Group chairs to send Sharon Mays summary of things that have happened over the past year to cover 7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021 for the Annual Internal Review
 - vii. Staff to send last year's Annual Internal Review
 - viii. Board to determine July meeting date
 - ix. Staff to include HFAWG one pager
 - x. Connect Citizen Communication to board members
 - xi. Kacey and Joi to meet to ensure outreach to all Council Members and County Commissioners

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Request presentation from Rachel Coff at the County to provide information about how to get items into County budget process, ARP funding, and clarity about how they fill vacancies on the
- b. Discuss College Student Commission Food Insecurity Grant Recommendation
- c. Review the description/page of what the Food Policy Board does. Discussion of creating a video
- d. Travis County Corrections presentation around agriculture

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ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Karen Magid adjourned the meeting at 10:52 am

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